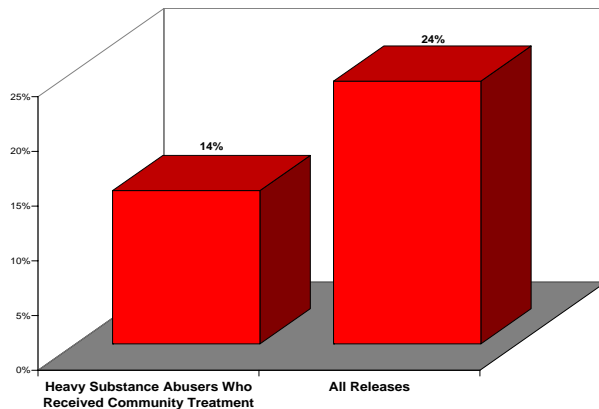


Janet Napolitano, Governor
 Michael D. Branham, Director □ Dianne Gadow, Deputy Director
 Volume VI, Number 3 May - June 2005
 Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections * 1624 West Adams * Phoenix, Arizona 85007 * 602-542-2053

Figure 1: Recidivism Rates of Selected 2003 ADJC Releases



CURRENT ADJC RESEARCH

Stella Vasquez, Gopal Chengalath and John Vivian, (April 2005), Follow-Up Treatment Provided to Juveniles Released from Substance Abuse Housing Units

Recently, Mr. Cowles requested information on how many juveniles released from ADJC specialty units received follow-up care in the community. We examined releases from the substance abuse units and found that 18% of the juveniles released in 2004 and 20% of the juveniles released in 2003 received some type of substance abuse treatment in addition to drug testing. The recidivism rate of the releases that received treatment and drug testing was 10 percentage points lower than all releases (see Figure 1). Community-based substance abuse treatment may have contributed to the improved success rate.

JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA

What is the relationship between adolescent substance abuse and school performance?

Jennifer Grimes, (May 2005), Correctional Program Assessment Inventory.

R&D received training on the Correctional Program Assessment Inventory® (CPAI). The CPAI is a tool to assess correctional intervention programs. The CPAI covers six areas: 1) Program Implementation and the Qualifications of the Program Director; 2) Offender Pre-service Assessment; 3) Characteristics of the Program; 4) Characteristics and Practices of the Staff; 5) Evaluation and Quality Control; and 6) Miscellaneous items such as ethical guidelines and program stability. CPAI data are collected through structured interviews with staff and juveniles. Other sources of information include manuals, treatment materials, and a review of case files. Each section is scored as either very satisfactory, satisfactory, needs improvement, or unsatisfactory. Final program scores are compared to those from over 300 programs that have been assessed using the CPAI.

John Vivian, (May 2005), Seasonality Analysis of Juveniles Committed to ADJC.

Have you ever wondered if there was a pattern to when Arizona's judges commit juveniles to ADJC? We examined ADJC commitments from 2000 to 2004 to see if such patterns existed. We selected a recent time period because we wanted to identify current practices, and we selected five years because we wanted to moderate the effects of unusually high or low months. We found that August and May were the months when ADJC generally gets the most commitments, and January and February were the months when ADJC gets the fewest.

JUVENILE JUSTICE LITERATURE REVIEW

Warr, Mark, (February 2005), Making Delinquent Friends: Adult Supervision and Children's Affiliations, Criminology.

Warr researched the question: why do some adolescents acquire delinquent friends and others do not. In order to do this research he examined the quality of parental supervision. He concluded: "Parents who, for whatever reason, provide their children with too much unsupervised time and too little scrutiny with respect to their friends are more likely to see their children fall into bad company." His findings are based on an analysis of a survey of 1,738 parents and 929 juveniles. Previous research found that unsupervised time created opportunities for delinquent conduct and unsupervised time in the company of peers was critical to explaining delinquency. Warr found that the likelihood of having delinquent friends increased sharply as the level of parental supervision declined.

Greenfield, Lynette, Alex Chobotov, Deborah Anchors, Tripti Gangal, Susan Nicely, and Marci Stables, (April 2005), Juvenile Recidivism in Virginia, DJJ Research Quarterly.

The Research and Evaluation Section (R&E) of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) completed a study of juvenile recidivism. They found that 27 states computed statewide juvenile recidivism rates, 9 states computed program specific recidivism rates, 5 states did not compute recidivism rates and 7 states did not participate in their survey. Three alternative measures of recidivism were reported: rearrest, reconviction and/or reincarceration. The R&E used reconviction as their measure of recidivism, and their measure excluded violations of probation or parole. The one year re-arrest rate for their 2003 releases was 49%, the reconviction rate was 38% and the reincarceration rate was 17%. Males had higher recidivism rates than females, African Americans had higher rates than other racial/ethnic groupings and juveniles who were 15 at the time of their release also had higher recidivism rates. Juveniles with substance abuse problems were found to have higher rearrest and reconviction rates, but

lower reincarceration rates than juveniles without substance abuse problems. Juvenile sex offenders and juveniles who participated in the Youth Industries program had lower rearrest, reconviction and reincarceration rates than others.

Bazemore, Gordon, Jeanne Stinchcomb and Leslie Leip, (June 2004), Scared Smart or Bored Straight? Testing Deterrence Logic in an Evaluation of Police-Led Truancy Intervention, Justice Quarterly.

One American community established a truancy intervention program that was managed by local police officials. The program involved police officers taking truants to a central location, assessing and holding them, and then releasing them to their parents or teachers. Bazemore et al., note that although the number of truancy cases processed in the juvenile justice system is small, truancy is correlated with delinquency, and truancy is a problem that requires strict and formal enforcement. This study involved 350 juveniles who were processed through this truancy intervention program and 200 juveniles that were not. Subjects were randomly selected and the study was conducted during the 2000 school year. The program was found to have had little impact upon subsequent delinquency, and the impact upon subsequent truancy was mixed. The researchers were critical of the punishment component of this truancy reduction program and noted that only 8% of the juveniles they studied received treatment. The officers who participated in the program were found to take little time with the juveniles, their families and school officials, meanwhile they were encouraged to make as many truancy arrests as possible.

JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA ANSWER

According to the 2004 Arizona Youth Survey, low grades in school and substance abuse go hand-in-hand. In fact, students who reported getting mostly B's in school were less likely to report having any drug usage in the last 30 days, than students who reported getting mostly C's or D's.

Please let us know how we're doing, and fill out a customer service survey at:

<http://intranet.adjc.az.gov/SupportServices/R&D/Surveys/CustomServiceSurvey.asp>